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HONOR CLUB



Thursday, July 3rd, 2014

Chairman Tom Wheeler
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Good afternoon, Chairman Wheeler,

From the local grocery store, to the favorite restaurant around Arrowhead Stadium, the economic fabric of our community centers around the Chiefs and the economic benefit they bring. As I am sure other cities with an NFL team can attest to, the city shuts down on Sundays to cheer for their team. However, in Kansas City, the Chiefs are more than a team. They represent the tremendous economic opportunities for everyone.

The Chiefs strengthen and help support Kansas City's economy in many ways. Hotels all across the city house fans every weekend in the fall and depend upon the games for economic support. Recent ideas from the FCC to change the blackout rule will not only put hotels in jeopardy of economic losses, the entire community will be affected. The current blackout rule ensures a full stadium and if the attendance at the games decreases and there is no blackout rule, hotels, restaurants, bars, grocery stores and our community's tax base will suffer.

The team is deeply integrated into the city's economy. Any changes in ticket sales will impact the team's revenue leading to more expensive seating and a downward spiral of fewer attendees. Not only is this bad news for die-hard Chiefs fans, but also it is bad news for businesses that rely on the games for their livelihood. The blackout rule provides these businesses with the financial support they need now and the stability to plan for the future. Without this rule, the only "winners" are cable/satellite conglomerates.

Please eliminate proposals to end the blackout rule. As a sport fan, the games provide economic opportunities for many of us. Please keep these opportunities for all by continuing the blackout rule.

Sincerely,

Wally Pfeffer

CC: Mignon Clyburn, Jessic Rosenworcel, Ajit Pai, Mike O'Rielly